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Attorney Docket: 5034-102 US

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Paul Halas : Group Art Unit: 3635
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Serial No.: 10/756,714 :
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Filed: January 13, 2004 :
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For: Corner Molding Cap System :
:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action of October 20, 2004 having a shortened statutory period set to expire on January 20, 2005, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2.

The Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7.

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Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A molding cap for use with a first molding having a first cross-sectional area and a proximal end, and a second molding having a second cross-sectional area and a proximal end, the molding cap comprising:

a three-dimensional structure, said three-dimensional structure further comprising:

a top front surface;

~~a bottom surface;~~

a top side surface generally perpendicular to said front surface;

an outer side surface generally perpendicular to said front surface;

a bottom side surface generally perpendicular to said front surface;

an inner side surface generally perpendicular to said front surface;

~~a side surface, said side surface coupling said surface to said bottom surface;~~ said bottom side surface having a first hollow area corresponding to the first cross-sectional area and said inner side surface having a second hollow area corresponding to the second cross-sectional area;

wherein the first molding is partially covered by said three-dimensional structure and the second molding is partially covered by said three-dimensional structure, as said three-dimensional structure straddles the first molding and straddles the second molding, such that said three-dimensional structure conceals the proximal an end of the first molding and the proximal an end of the second molding.

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Claim 2 (currently amended): The molding cap as recited in claim 1 wherein said top the side surface and said outer side surface ~~are further comprises a plurality of mostly flat solid surfaces with one of said plurality of mostly flat surfaces having said first hollow area and another one of said plurality of mostly flat surfaces having said second hollow area.~~

Claim 3 (previously presented): The molding cap as recited in claim 1 wherein said first hollow area is orientated approximately ninety degrees relative to said second hollow area.

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (previously presented): The molding cap as recited in claim 1 wherein said first hollow area is orientated at an obtuse angle relative to said second hollow area.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The molding cap as recited in claim 1 wherein said top front surface has a pilot hole for a fastener to secure said three-dimensional structure.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The molding cap as recited in claim 1 wherein said top front surface further comprises a three-dimensional decorative surface.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The molding cap as recited in claim 1 wherein said three-dimensional structure is secured such that the first molding is permitted to slide within the first hollow area and the second molding is permitted to slide within the second hollow area.

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Claim 9 (previously presented): The molding cap as recited in claim 1 wherein said first hollow area and said second hollow area define mirrored areas.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The molding cap as recited in claim 1 wherein said first hollow area and said second hollow area which extend into said three-dimensional structure are at least as large as the corresponding area defined at the side surface.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A molding and molding cap system comprising:

- a first molding having a first cross-sectional area and a proximal end;
- a second molding having a second cross-sectional area and a proximal end;
- ~~at least one molding having a cross-sectional area;~~
- a three-dimensional structure, said three-dimensional structure further comprising:
 - a top front surface;
 - a ~~bottom~~ surface;
 - a top side surface generally perpendicular to said front surface;
 - an outer side surface generally perpendicular to said front surface;
 - a bottom side surface generally perpendicular to said front surface;
 - an inner side surface generally perpendicular to said front surface;
 - ~~a side surface, said side surface coupling said top surface to said bottom surface,~~
- said bottom side surface having a first hollow area corresponding to said cross-sectional area and
- said inner side surface having a second hollow area corresponding to a second cross-sectional
- area;

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wherein ~~said at least one~~ the first molding is partially covered by said three-dimensional structure ~~and the second molding is partially covered by said three-dimensional structure~~, said three-dimensional structure straddles said ~~at least one~~ said first molding ~~and straddles said second molding~~, such that said three-dimensional structure conceals the proximal ~~an~~ end of said ~~at least one~~ said first molding ~~and said proximal end of said second molding~~.

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Claim 12 (currently amended):

The system as recited in claim 11 wherein said top the side surface ~~and said outer side surface are~~ further comprises a plurality of mostly flat solid surfaces ~~with one of said plurality of mostly flat surfaces having said first hollow area and another one of said plurality of mostly flat surfaces having said second hollow area~~.

¹³
Claim ~~12~~ (previously presented): The system as recited in claim 11 wherein said first hollow area is orientated approximately ninety degrees relative to said second hollow area.

Claim 14 (canceled).

¹⁴
Claim ~~15~~ (previously presented): The system as recited in claim 11 wherein said first hollow area is orientated at an obtuse angle relative to said second hollow area.

¹⁵
Claim ~~16~~ (previously presented): The system as recited in claim 11 wherein said top surface has a pilot hole for a fastener to secure said three-dimensional structure.

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Claim 17 (currently amended): The system as recited in claim 11 wherein said ~~top~~ front surface further comprises a three-dimensional decorative surface.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The system as recited in claim 11 wherein said three-dimensional structure is secured such that said at least one molding is permitted to slide within the first hollow area.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The system as recited in claim 11 wherein said first hollow area and said second hollow area define mirrored areas.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The system as recited in claim 11 wherein said first hollow area and said second hollow area which extend into said three-dimensional structure are at least as large as the corresponding area defined at the side surface.